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MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION: Senate	TEL
FROM: Peter Keller, Vice-President, Academic and Provost, and Chair, SCUP 	
RE: Program Name Change of the BSc in Management and Systems Science (SCUP 17-18)	
DATE: April 21, 2017	TIME

At its April 19, 2017 meeting, SCUP reviewed and approved the name change from BSc in Management and Systems Science to BSc in Data Science for the major and honours programs within the Faculty of Science, effective Fall 2017.

Motion:

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the name change from BSc in Management and Systems Science to BSc in Data Science for the major and honours programs within the Faculty of Science, effective Fall 2017.

c: D. Campbell



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MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION	Senate Committee on University Priorities	DATE	March 3, 2017
FROM	Wade Parkhouse, Acting Chair Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies	PAGES	1/1
RE:	Faculty of Science (SCUS 17-12g)(1)		

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of March 2, 2017, gives rise to the following recommendations:

Motion

That SCUP approve the name change from BSc in Management and System Science to BSc in Data Science for the major and honours programs within the Faculty of Science.

The relevant documentation for review by SCUP is attached.



FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Dean of Science

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MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION	Senate Committee for Undergraduate Studies, SFU	DATE	February 20, 2017
FROM	Carl Lowenberger, Chair, Science UCC		
RE:	Submission of Undergraduate Curriculum Business from the Faculty of Science for Inclusion on the Agenda of the February 9, 2017 SCUS Meeting		

Management & System Science Motions (MSSC)

Motion 1a: Proposed name change from the BSc in Management and System Science to the BSc in Data Science for both the major and honours programs

Motion 1b: That SCUS approve updated program changes for both the major and honours programs in order to modernize the course offerings of the programs

Motion 2: That SCUS approve the creation of the new acronym DATA (Data Science) effective Fall 2017 to replace the acronym MSSC (Management and System Science)

Motion 3: That SCUS change the course acronym from MSSC to DATA for all MSSC courses and related pre-requisite and course description changes effective Fall 2017

MOTION 1a

That SCUS approve a proposed name change from the BSc in Management and System Science to the BSc in Data Science for both the major and honours programs.

Rationale:

The proposed name change from the “BSc in Management and System Science” to the “BSc in Data Science” is desired to improve recruitment and clarify the skills instructed. The Management and System Science name has proved to be very challenging for student recruitment as it is antiquated and poorly defined. The proposed name change to Data Science reflects a recently developed job title for an interdisciplinary skill set combining Business, Computer Science, Statistics, and Mathematics. Data Science refers to adding value to data, from asking business questions, to obtaining and warehousing databases, to providing analytics and inference. The name change reflects more accurately the actual instruction offered in this degree and will also aid in recruitment as it better articulates the scope of the major and honours degrees to potential students and employers. Additionally, recently the name Data Science has created a lot of buzz in pop culture; Data Scientist is the “Sexiest Job of the 21st Century” according to the Harvard Business Review [1], and The Wall Street Journal describes data scientists as “a job title that barely existed three years ago but since has become one of the hottest corners of the high-tech labor market” [2].

The affected programs are the Management and System Science Major, to be renamed Data Science Major, and the Management and System Science Honours, to be renamed Data Science Honours.

1] <https://hbr.org/2012/10/data-scientist-the-sexiest-job-of-the-21st-century>

[2] <http://www.wsj.com/articles/academic-researchers-find-lucrative-work-as-big-data-scientists-1407543088>